

NU Role, Missions stated

Editors' note: The following is the Role and Mission Statement of the University of Nebraska as approved by the NU Board of Regents, September 9, 1977.

The people of Nebraska have made a substantial investment in developing the facilities and resources of the university. For this reason, and in view of the high costs of establishing duplicate programs at other public institutions of postsecondary education (especially in an area of stable and even declining enrollments), the exclusive responsibility for a great number of programs and services should remain with the University. In order that the needs of the entire state for such programs services are met, the University should continue to work in close cooperation with all of the state's other institutions on postsecondary education.

Educational Programs

The University of Nebraska provides a comprehensive range of programs at the bachelors, master's, specialist, doctoral, postdoctoral, and professional levels. The university also offers curricula leading to associate degrees and certificates in areas in which the university has specialized faculty resources.

A number of specialized degrees programs . . . should continue to be offered exclusively'

Given the geographic separation of institutions of higher education in Nebraska, and the need for easy accessibility to certain programs in all parts of the state, there are undergraduate programs in some areas of the arts and sciences, business administration, and teacher education in which duplication of offerings is both necessary and appropriate. Nonetheless, at the undergraduate level there is a number of specialized degree programs and majors in the natural and physical sciences, behavioral and social sciences, business administration, teacher education, humanities and fine arts, which should

Beginning anthro course revamped

Anyone who registered for Anthropology 111K, because they heard it was an easy A, should think again.

The course has been revamped, said Richard McWilliams, instructor for the class.

It used to be based on the essay examination, but a fact/answer format now is used, he said.

McWilliams not only teaches the class but is responsible for revising the program.

He said he previously thought students did not need to know as many facts to get an A out of the class.

Students coming out of Anthropology 111K were not knowledgeable enough to do well in upper level classes, he said.

With the new plan, students must read, memorize what they read and be able to recall.

continue to be offered exclusively by the university among public institutions of higher education in Nebraska.

The University of Nebraska should continue to be the only public institution in the state to offer instructional programs or degrees in the professions, particularly in those fields (other than teacher education) requiring special accreditation, certification, and licensure. As needs arise, the university should work cooperatively with state and area colleges in offering professional programs under university direction at additional locations throughout the state.

Because of the breadth and quality of the university's faculty and resources in graduate education and research, the extraordinarily high costs involved in developing and maintaining quality programs at the graduate level, and the uncertainty in predicting graduate enrollments over the years ahead, it is recommended that all graduate education at the specialist, doctoral, and postdoctoral levels, and all graduate education at the master's level in all fields other than teachers education be conducted throughout the public sector of higher education in Nebraska under the existing statewide mission of the University of Nebraska. If the need develops for graduate programs at additional locations throughout the state, the university should work closely with other institutions in the development of such programs under the direction of the university's graduate faculty.

The university should continue to develop more effective student transfer arrangements with other institutions of higher education and provide improved educational opportunities for Nebraskans through cooperative and contractual agreement with institutions in neighboring states.

Research and Scholarship

A vigorous and productive research program is a prerequisite for general accreditation of the university as a whole, and for professional accreditation of numerous programs within the university. Research also constitutes the essential foundation of quality instructional programs at the graduate level, and constitutes significantly to the

Most of the students in the old system received an A for the course, McWilliams said. He said it still is possible to get an A, but he said it might be harder now for some students. Already, the grades are lower than the average from other semesters, he said.

The course's basic plan has not changed, McWilliams said. Fred Keller, a psychologist, devised the program so students could learn at their own pace.

McWilliams said it is too early to tell if enrollment has suffered from the new plan. This is the first semester for the change, so many students may not have been aware of it, he said.

He said he hopes students will not become discouraged when they hear of the change. He said he thinks students still will learn from and enjoy the class.

breadth and quality of the university's programs of basic and applied research, yield extensive practical benefits to Nebraska agriculture, business, education, industry, government, the professions and the public at large.

Finally, through participation in national and international scholarly communities, the university's achievements in research are shared with the world and advances in research throughout the world are made available to Nebraskans. For these reasons, the university should continue to be the only public postsecondary institution in the state with an institutional mission for research. As new areas and needs develop, the university should continue to broaden and improve its programs of basic and applied research.

An additional major purpose of research is to improve and revitalize faculty. The university should encourage its faculty to work increasingly with qualified faculty at other institutions in Nebraska in collaborative research programs, thereby allowing these faculty members to benefit from and contribute to, the university's resources in the area of scholarship and research. As in the case of graduate education, a cooperative approach is clearly preferable to developing duplicate research programs at other institutions.

Public Services and Extension

By tradition and through adoption of the land-grant responsibilities set forth in the Morrill Act of 1862 and the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, the University of Nebraska provides comprehensive public services and extension to all citizens throughout Nebraska. Services are provided through programs in (1) general extension, (2) continuing education for the professions, (3) cooperative extension, (4) cultural outreach and recreational programs, (5) direct patient and client care and (6) non-traditional means of delivering education.

'Encourage its faculty to work increasingly with qualified faculty at other institutions'

In the area of general extension, the University of Nebraska should continue to offer correspondence courses, credit and non-credit field courses, workshops, and conferences throughout the state. Where appropriate, these programs should continue its policy of not offering credit field courses in general extension which can be provided locally by the state and area colleges.

In the field of continuing education for the professions, credit and non-credit courses, workshops, and seminars should continue to be provided exclusively by the university among public postsecondary institutions.

The state's cooperative extension programs in agriculture, home economics and related subjects, developed in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and local citizens, should continue to be provided exclusively by the university through its network of county agents operating in every county in Nebraska.

Summary

The University of Nebraska has a long tradition of responding to the educational needs of the state by providing leadership and programs of high quality in the areas of instruction, research and public services. It expects to continue to carry out its responsibilities in these areas in close cooperation with other institutions of higher education in the state.

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